

the Bullet

Volume 82, No. 20

Serving the Mary Washington Community since 1922.



Nick Nelson/Bullet

On Tuesday morning, March 24, a Pepsi company delivery truck drove off the road on Monroe Circle near Monroe Hall and the Woodard Campus Center. "Well, I was backing up, and I swung the back of the truck around too tight," truck driver Chris Newton said. "With the way the traction was, one tire was actually up off the ground so when I tried to correct, the truck just slid [into the forest area]." No other vehicles were involved.

UMW Police would not comment and had the area cleared by 2:30 p.m.

Off-Campus Peeping Tom Raises Safety Concerns

By ERIC STEIGLEDER
Staff Writer

On March 11, Fredericksburg police responded to a call from the 1000 block of Princess Ann Street, where three off-campus students claimed an unidentified man had attempted to forcibly enter their apartment.

According to the students, the man had approached one of them earlier that day, and had followed her to the front door, where he tried to gain entry.

The students said that the man returned that night around 1:30 a.m., and had peered at them through the window before trying to pry it open. It was at this point that the students decided to call the police.

Upon arrival, the police found the suspect in the alley behind the building, hiding beneath a tarp. They determined that the man had gained access to the building via the roof.

He was promptly taken into cus-

tody and later identified as Kenneth Singleton, a local man with no known address. He was charged with attempted burglary, peeping tom, and public intoxication.

While he was initially turned over to the Rappahannock Regional Jail with no bond, a call to the jail resulted in no new information regarding Singleton's case.

This case, while startling, is not remarkable. Similar events have plagued other off-campus students in recent years. In fact, many off-campus students are less surprised by the event, and more surprised that they were not notified.

Kelly Reeder, a sophomore who lives off-campus, was one such student.

"I didn't know about this incident," Reeder said. "And with a good amount of students living in off-campus housing, someone needs to send out e-mails or some kind of notifications, even if it is via Facebook."

Although, Reeder went on to say that her situation was probably different than other students living off-campus.

"I think that I'm in a different situation," she said. "When I used to leave work later at night, I always checked and never saw anyone. Being downtown where I live, there isn't anything that is really open that would draw in a large amount of people."

Surprisingly, some off-campus students are taking the event in stride, preferring a pragmatic approach to the issue.

"I didn't even know that happened," said junior Amanda Pullen, another student with an off-campus apartment. "But I think we've done about all we can safely wise, so I don't worry much about the rest."

And while Pullen said that she would have appreciated some sort of

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Students Endorse 'Second Chance' Policy for Drugs

By JOHANNAH O'KEEFE
Staff Writer

March 20 and 21, 233 students signed their names to a petition for a "second chance" drug policy at Mary Washington.

The petition is part of a movement on campus to replace the current zero tolerance policy for drug-related offenses. If the administration were to enact the proposed "second chance" policy, offending students would face expulsion if the university determined they had committed two drug-related offenses.

Under current policy, students may be expelled after one drug violation is reported to the University.

Junior Mike Isaacson and Cara MacDonald, both members of the Mary Washington chapter of Students for a Democratic Society, are active members of the campaign for the "second-chance" drug policy. As student senators, they made the motion requesting that the Legislative Action Committee of Student Senate look into replacing the current zero tolerance drug policy.

The motion passed Student Senate and Executive Cabinet.

Isaacson and MacDonald believe that the current zero tolerance policy prevents students who find themselves in drug-related emergencies from call-

ing the police or paramedics out of fear of being reported to the university and expelled.

"A second chance marijuana policy would foster a safer and stronger university community free from fear of expulsion for what is a relatively minor offense," Isaacson said.

According to Isaacson and MacDonald, Mary Washington's expulsion of those guilty of first-time marijuana possession is disproportionate to the state laws regarding drug possession and use, and should be changed.

Under Virginia law (18.2-250.1 of the Virginia Code) a first-offense marijuana possession conviction is classified as a misdemeanor, and carries a maximum penalty of 30 days in jail and a \$500 fine. Any drug possession charge in the state may lead to a driving license suspension.

Isaacson, MacDonald and other SDS supporters of the policy say the crux of the issue over the University's strict drug policy is in the safety of students.

"In the instance that a student is in an emergency, but might potentially have to confess his or her possession or use of marijuana, that student would be less likely to reach the appropriate authority figures to get help," Isaacson said.

The group argues that students will

► See DRUG POLICY, page 9

Va. First Lady Anne Holton Is Commencement Speaker

By HEATHER BRADY
Staff Writer

Virginia First Lady Anne Holton will be the speaker for Mary Washington's 2009 commencement.

She will address this year's graduating class in Ball Circle on Saturday, May 9, according to a message from the Office of the President. Holton has devoted her career to improving foster care and adoption. She has served as a legal-aid lawyer representing low-income families. She has also served as juvenile and domestic-relations district court judge in the City of Richmond.

The First Lady has received numerous awards for her work in the legal and judicial sectors. She recently received the YWCA of Richmond 2006 Outstanding Woman Award in the category of law.

Holton also received the 2008 Annie E. Casey Foundation Families for Life Award of Distinction for her initiative "For Keeps: Families for all Virginia Teens." Her work with the initiative includes a focus on finding and strengthening permanent families for older children in foster care and on Virginia's Youth Advisory Council.

Holton, a native of Roanoke, Va., graduated from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public Law and International Affairs in 1980. She met her future husband Tim Kaine while obtaining her J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1983.

Linwood Holton, Holton's father,

What's Inside

Sweet 16

Ben Folds Preview



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See pg. 6

March 26, 2009

Apartments to Adopt Keycard System for Entering Buildings

By RYAN MARR
Staff Writer

Nearly five years after the installation of the first card access systems in the other campus residence halls, residents of the UMW Apartments will soon be required to carry key cards in order to gain access to their apartment buildings.

The installation is set to be completed by the end of May and will cost the UMW Foundation, which owns the property, approximately \$300,000.

According to John Wiltenuh, associate vice-president for Facilities

Services, the installation will fulfill the university's wish to bring all campus residence facilities up to a common standard. The project was delayed due to the apartment complex's reliance on private funding, which the UMW Foundation had not previously budgeted for the installation.

The UMW Foundation, which also owns houses on the corner of College Avenue and William Street, is an independent, non-profit corporation responsible for managing private resources in support of the university. The Foundation

► See KEYS, page 9



Senior Carolyn Duffy enters UMW Apartment Building 1. The key card system is planned to be in effect soon.



served as Governor of Virginia from 1970 to 1974.

Courtesy of virginia.gov

The University of Mary Washington will hold its 98th Commencement on Saturday, May 9, 2009 in Ball Circle. All seating will be first-come, first-served.

Upcoming Events:

Tethered Hot Air Balloon Rides

Thurs., March 26
5-7 p.m.,
Ball Circle
JUNIORS ONLY

Junior Ring Presentation Ceremony

Fri., March 27, 7-9 p.m., Dodd Auditorium. Followed by a reception in Faculty and Staff Dining Room. Family welcome. JUNIORS ONLY

Comedian Vidur Kapur

Fri., March 27, 8 p.m., Great Hall. Doors open at 7:30; admission is free. Presented by Giant.

World Language Day

Sat., March 28, Great Hall, 9 a.m. Spelling bees, poetry recitation, poster and video contests are judged by advanced UMW language students and native speakers from the Fredericksburg community. President Hample will open this outreach event.

Junior Ring Dance

Sat., March 28, 9 p.m. to 12 a.m., Great Hall. Free music, food, dancing and junior class items. JUNIORS ONLY.

Finance Committee Budget Training

Sun., March 29, 7 p.m., Red Room. short presentation led by the Finance Committee representatives, which will be followed by a question and answer period.

Want to get involved? Come to a staff meeting on Sunday at 8 p.m. in the Bullet office, located in the lower-level of Seacobeck, or contact newsxcrew@gmail.com



Police Beat

By JESS MASULLI
Staff Writer



Feb. 22- At 2:09 p.m., it was reported that items were stolen from the fourth floor of Mason Hall. The four male suitemates reported two cameras, an iPod, sunglasses and a bottle of cologne missing from their rooms. The estimated value was \$1,160. The investigation determined that an 18-year-old male Stafford resident had stolen the items. The property was returned and the victims decided not to prosecute. The Stafford resident was identified as a trespasser and was warned to stay away from the campus.

Feb. 23- At 7:25 p.m., it was reported by a witness that a bench in front of Trinkle Hall was run over by a white truck driving on Campus Walk. The destroyed bench was estimated at \$713. The driver is still unknown.

Feb. 26- Between Feb. 24 at 4:30 p.m. and Feb. 26 at 2 p.m., audio-visual equipment was stolen from Lee Hall. The equipment included a DVD recorder, CD recorder, drum set microphone and a Dremel toolkit, used for installation. The estimated value was \$1,227. There are no suspects or witnesses at this time.

March 4- At the North Building of Stafford Campus, someone attempted to open a Pepsi vending machine. They did not gain access to the money or drinks. There are no suspects or witnesses at this time.

March 4- At 10:30 a.m., a snack vending machine on the second floor of Mason Hall was overturned. On the previous day, the machine was upright and intact. There are no suspects or leads at this time.

this time.

March 7- At 10:42 p.m., it was reported that blood was in the stairwell between the fourth and fifth floors of Randolph Hall. One minute later, it was reported that an ambulance was called to the bell tower for a student with severe lacerations. A sergeant responded to the bell tower and found a 19-year-old male, from the second floor of Russell Hall, with a severe wrist laceration. He was waiting for the ambulance. The student was upset by a situation at home and had punched the window in Randolph. He was taken to Mary Washington Hospital and referred to the administration for damages and clean up.

March 10- At 9:46 p.m., it was reported by an employee that a \$25 coupon book for local businesses had been stolen from an office in

Lee Hall. The coupon book had been left unsecured on a desk at 6:30 p.m. the previous day. There are no suspects or witnesses.

March 18- At 4:20 p.m., the locksmith reported that a first floor door had been kicked in. The door and lock were broken. One resident of the room said the door had been broken since he had returned from spring break. The officer contacted the other resident of the room. That resident said that on Feb. 27 he needed to get into his room to get documents. He was unable to enter the room and could not contact Residence Life since it was spring break so he kicked the door in. The case was referred to the administration and the student will be responsible for paying damages.

This information has been compiled with the help of the University of Mary Washington Police Department.

Voter Info Night Educates Students About SGA Candidates and Issues

By HEATHER BRADY and KAT SAUNDERS
Staff Writers

At Voter Info Night on Monday, the candidates for Student Government Association president presented their views about the role of SGA via an unlikely topic: a student's request for a tetherball court.

The three candidates, Ashley Davis, Sam Miller and Chris Sions, all used the topic to bring humor to their speeches on what they believe they can contribute as president.

They used it to convey what SGA is able to do for students. Davis emphasized that she would not promise what she could not deliver, especially in light of the economic crisis, but that she would fight for what students wanted, including a tetherball court.

Miller responded to this comment with a remark about putting one up herself if she had to. Sions admitted that he had not reflected much on the tetherball issue, but followed the remark with a slew of student government issues that he was familiar with, as well as his perspective on them.

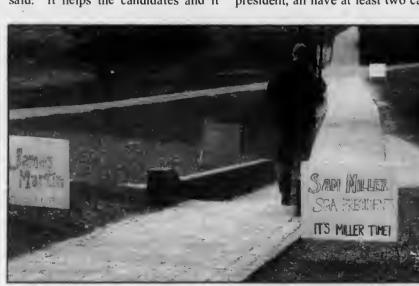
These candidates were among the 21 nominees for SGA positions that spoke on Monday night. The speeches were limited to three minutes for each candidate.

date, and all were given the chance to speak, whether they were running opposed or unopposed.

"The event is about coming together and being transparent," Jon Shields, co-chair of the Election Rules and Procedures Committee of the Student Senate, said. "It helps the candidates and it

"We had a lot of contested positions this year," Shields said.

Although six positions were uncontested this year, the five most prominent positions, including SGA president, SGA vice-president, JRB president, JRB vice-president and Honor Council president, all have at least two candidates



Emily McAlpine/ Bullet

helps the students."

While five students were unable to attend, two of the students, both studying abroad, e-mailed their speeches to be read by the event organizers.

The event was not held last year due to a lack of competition amongst candidates, but was reinstated this year because of the amount of nominees.

dates campaigning for each spot.

The greatest themes of the night's speeches were transparency of the actions of student government, as well as communication between student government, students, and the community.

The event, which was not intended as a debate, but instead as an opportunity

to inform students of the candidates' perspectives, drew a crowd of about 50 students.

"I'm really happy with the turnout," Christina Giaimo, co-chair of the ERP, said.

Junior Hunter Ray attended the event to support a friend that was running, but also to make a more informed decision before election day.

"There's a good selection this year," Ray said. "It's definitely more exciting. You get to see passion in person."

Afterwards, candidates stayed for an informal "meet and greet" so that students could approach them in person.

"I thought the ERP ran a great event," Molly Rose, a junior, said.

"There were a few candidates I learned more about," Ray said, "but I haven't made a decision yet."

Last year, several major positions, including SGA President, were uncontested. This year, students are excited about the high number of students running.

"It gives you more variety," Ray said. "People are actually invested in the school. You're bound to find a candidate that speaks to you."

Elections will be held via e-mail until March 26 at 5 p.m.

Campus Signs to be Updated

By BRYNN BOYER
Staff Writer

Take a good look at the brown and white wooden signs in front of the buildings on-campus. By the end of the school year, Mary Washington will have gotten a face-lift for them.

The current signs were produced and maintained over the years by UMW Facilities Services, according to Director of University Marketing Jeanne Burkett.

"They worked well for that time, but now it's time to move on," she said.

The first phase of the project will replace the signs, some of which are decades old, with signs like those in front of the English, Linguistics, and Speech Department's creative writing and debate building on William Street.

"I believe that [the project] will give the entire campus a more consistent and professional image, consistent with the high academic quality of the University," Martin Wilder, vice president for enrollment and communications, said.

Every building on campus will have a new sign identifying the name of the building, the type of building it is, and any offices inside.

The first phase of the project, which will cost approximately \$79,000 from the UMW Foundation, will also include four "way finding" signs.

Those signs, to be placed at Jepson, Seacobeck, George Washington Hall and Palmieri Plaza, will have directional arrows pointing to various buildings on-campus.

One of the motivations for the project, according to Wilder, was "to help those unfamiliar with the campus to find their way, and to make the University feel more welcoming to visitors."

Acorn Sign Graphics, the company that has designed signs for Longwood University and Sweet Briar College, has designed the signs for Mary Washington.

Mounted on six-foot-tall black poles, the navy blue signs will all include the

► See SIGNS, page 9



Emily McAlpine/ Bullet
The new campus signs will look like those currently in front of 1201 William St.

Correction

Bethany Farrell's name was misspelled in the article "Klein Will Undergo Renovations" on page one in last week's issue of the Bullet.

Viewpoints

Texting and Smoking Bans Need Beefing Up

Laws and rules affect college students in many ways, from the classroom syllabus to getting arrested for not-so-brilliant weekend decisions.

In these first few months 2009, several laws have been passed by the Virginia General Assembly that will surely have an immediate impact on the lives of all Va. residents, college students included.

On Feb. 24, Virginia lawmakers passed a law banning text messaging while operating a motor vehicle. According to a *Roanoke Times* article reported on the day of the Senate's decision, violators will be fined \$20 on their first offense and \$50 the second and all following offenses. Violators may only be cited by police after being pulled over for a different offense.

Another recent change to Virginia law is a bill signed this month by

Governor Tim Kaine that will ban tobacco smoking in restaurants and bars throughout the state. A March 10 *Associated Press* article found in the *New York Times* explains that smoking will be allowed in separately ventilated rooms, private clubs and outdoor bar areas and that the law will go into effect on Dec. 1. A Feb. 16 *Washington Post* reported that violators would have to pay a fine of \$25.

So how does the *Bullet* feel about these recent alterations to Virginia law, which will undoubtedly effect the lives of college kids, who are major

contributors to both smoking and texting statistics? We feel good. In fact, we wish that the laws were stronger than they are.

Anyone who has witnessed first-hand the horror of a fellow motorist grazing the lines of their lane and promptly correcting themselves while their cell phone or BlackBerry get the majority of their concentration knows how potentially dangerous it can be for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians alike.

Will an occasional \$20 or \$50 fine really curtail the habits of the common text addict, who probably spends three times that amount monthly on their cell phone bills?

Similarly, will a \$25 fine stymie chain smokers, even if it pushes them outdoors?

Smokers will most likely obey the law out of respect for the dining or drinking establishment or for fear of a fire, but will the law be enough to truly spare the public from unwanted second-hand smoke?

The *Washington Post* article also said that anti-smoking advocates are unconvinced that the law will be effective due to compromises in the writing that made its being passed possible.

They may be right.

While the laws are undoubtedly a step in the right direction, more can be done to keep people out of harms way and selfish habits.



Staff Editorial

Campus Housing Should Be More Fair for Males

BY BREEANNA SVEUM
Assistant Viewpoints Editor

Though class registration for each semester can be stressful, what with degree requirements, figuring out prerequisites and making sure you have time to eat lunch, far more stressful is the process of housing selection, which has a far larger impact on the average student for a longer period of time.

Housing is determined by lottery number within class standing, so a student with 89 credits, just shy of reaching senior status, has the same shot at a good lottery number as a student with 61 credits.

For female students, who have plenty of available housing, including the all-female Ball Hall, a lottery number below 1000 will guarantee you a room in almost any dorm.

But for male students, the opportunity to live in a conveniently located building is much more difficult to attain.

Willard Hall, for example, is the only upper-classmen, co-ed dorm located in the middle of campus, making it convenient for those with classes in both Jepson and Combs. But there are only a couple of male rooms in that building.

Discounting the first floor, which is largely set aside for the Freshman Year Experience-GOLD program, there are four male rooms in Willard, and

one of them is for the R.A.

This means that a male student double-majoring in biology and psychology is forced to take the long trek to either Jepson or Chandler every or every other day. Female students have the option of living in the middle of campus, halving the distance they have to walk, lugging heavy textbooks along.

Ball Hall, which houses only female students, is also located in the middle of campus and also has the benefit of being on Ball Circle, the largest expanse of field on campus available for students to use for impromptu sports games since the book-store trailer took up the lawn in front of Westmoreland Hall.

Male students, who are being admitted to Mary Washington in larger and larger quantities each year, should have the option of more centralized housing in Ball Hall and Willard Hall.

One option is to have a more equal number of male and female rooms in those buildings. The male students at Mary Washington were accepted based on the same criteria as the female students and as such should have the same opportunities when it comes to housing.

Female students still outnumber male students on this campus, and males certainly shouldn't be given preferential treatment just because of their gender.

Letter to the Editor: Police Strands Students

Dear Editor:

Flustered and confused in the pouring rain, you tell him you will walk home.

It's 2 a.m. With a heavy sigh, you both begin walking back.

Now you're pissed.

As two out-of-state, full-time students of the university, you both wonder what your mothers would think about a school police officer allowing you to walk back from the 7-Eleven on Lafayette street at 2 a.m.?

At \$25,000 a year, I don't think she would see what the issue is with transporting two students back less than a mile.

We all know that Fredericksburg is not the safest place in the middle of the night. Some people are uncomfortable leaving the library at night due to past incidents.

With so many measures taken to provide safety to students, is it not the responsibility of every police employee to protect and serve?

It is ironic to think that those who are employed for this purpose chose to leave us high and not so dry on a Saturday night.

Aidan McCurdy is a junior.

Hey guys,
I think that this week should be one of intellectual growth and advancement. So, we should all learn a word and use it more often!

This week's word is: "LEGS"



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Letter and Editorial Policy

The *Bullet* is always eager to receive letters to the editor and guest columns, and every effort is made to print them.

Letters should be submitted the Monday before publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words, and columns should not exceed 700 words.

We will not publish anonymous submissions. Letters must include a phone number and address for purposes of verification. They can be mailed to the *Bullet* at 1701 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA 22401-4666, delivered to our office in Seacobeck Hall or sent to our e-mail at umwbullet@gmail.com.

Opinions expressed in letters or letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff. Contact the *Bullet* at 540-654-1133.

the Bullet

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Serving the University of
Mary Washington
Community since 1922.

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Viewpoints

Cheating Partners: Relationships Call for Definition

What makes a relationship an actual relationship in the college world is often complicated and differs among assorted couples.

To begin with, the way people define relationships varies greatly among individuals. Some believe in keeping relationships light and fun-filled, while others see monogamy as the only way two people can technically be together.

The one problem that I have seen time and time again with friends and potential cheating situations is that they don't properly define the relationship before hand.

Just because you've been seeing someone, maybe even sleeping with them, does not mean that that person has become your one and only. A number of times, I have heard friends say with a defeated shrug that they weren't technically dating after discovering that their object of interest has moved on.

But despite the gray areas, when a relationship happens and the Facebook status gets changed, so do the rules.

Suddenly looking around, flirting with others and sleeping around become taboo and will result in any number of repercussions: angry significant others, rumors behind the back, upset friends, and drama, drama, drama.

I've had a number of friends who have looked at me with that guilty expression on their faces—sometimes they're complemented with a goofy smile—when they admit to me that they may have sort of, accidentally, kind of cheated on their better half.

In each case, there's always an excuse that tries to place the cheater in the right, no matter how guilty he or she is.

So why do people do it in the first place?

Having been an attentive ear to cheaters of all shapes and sizes, I've come up with a few reasons as to why people find the need to cheat.

For starters, being the crazy, hormonal group of kids we are stuck in a small campus, figuring out life goals, and attempting to prepare ourselves for the adult world, sometimes it just becomes a little too much to come back to a girlfriend or boyfriend

who expects you to be there for them as well.

Confused and tired, I believe that a lot of people cheat because the world they have set up for themselves has just become too much to bear and a perfect escape is to try something, or someone, new.

On the other hand, some people know perfectly well what they are doing and why they are doing it.

Bo redom sometimes comes up for those who have been in a long-term relationship or are just not the relationship type.

Things start off grand but then level off to the point where it becomes real life again, without the butterflies and giggles.

Then a new person comes along and that initial sense of excitement can become just too much to bear.

I've seen cheating as an act of revenge between couples before as well.

Feeling that their partner has committed some atrocity that needs to be punished, some people feel that the best way to get back at them, as well as reestablish a sense of control in the relationship, is to cheat.

Finally, one of the most frustrating reasons I have come across, is that those who cheat and are forgiven will often cheat again.

I'm not saying that this is always the case but in many situations once someone is caught cheating and realizes that there is little punishment involved when caught, what's to keep them from doing it again?

Having been cheated on in a relationship, I can understand why a lot of people are willing to take them back, forgive and forget, and just keep working on it.

But in doing so you're not only validating the cheater but also punishing yourself even further.

So if you find that you can't live without going for a person who isn't your established girlfriend or boyfriend then please just be an adult about it and say goodbye to the relationship and hello to a new chapter in your sexcapades.

Sexclamations

By KJ Adler,
Staff Writer



photo courtesy of martinalanotte at flickr.com

Does anything really grind your gears?
Speak up
before the
semester ends!



Image courtesy of aboynamedgoo.com

Send columns and Letters to The Editor
to umwbullet@gmail.com

New European Attitude May End the 'Closet American' Phenomenon

"Make me look as un-American as possible," I demanded of my stylist, plopping my Urban Outfitted rear in the salon chair.

The next morning, I would be on a plane to Italy, and the plan was to cut great lengths to avoid any association with the Ugly American Tourist.

I wanted to pass as a local, or at least a fellow European.

My haircut, a choppy pageboy channeling the likes of Audrey Hepburn and a cracked-out Peter Pan, proved effective.

As I promenaded along the cobblestone streets of Rome, tourists asked me for directions in phrasebook Italian, and street vendors shouted to me in French and German. The only English I heard came from Roman men's cat-calls, though it is now my understanding that "sexy mama" translates in multiple languages.

I seemed to be passing with flying colors.

While I was a pseudo-European superficially, there was the minor issue of my pungent American accent.

Apparently, being able to sing the Prego Pasta Sauce jingle in its entirety does not mean you can speak Italian. After four semesters of college French, I decided to be Parisienne for a week, occasionally throwing in an "Oo la la!" or a "Sacré-bleu!" for authenticity's sake. While I spoke enough French to order a gelato, if the conversation progressed past "what do you like to do on weekends," I was forced to admit my shameful Americanism. Or casually walk away.

Throughout my week-long façade, I secretly questioned my theatrical shenanigans (or should I say Susannigans?). Why was I so terrified of my heritage?

My time in Italy was spent eating lasagna and paying 15 euro to blush at Michelangelo's David; I was the embodiment of an American tourist. Edgy European haircut or not, I was still just a poser.

Enlightenment came from a hat vendor at

the San Lorenzo market in Florence.

Considering I was already adhering to an Italian cliché by buying a fedora, I decided to give my French charade a rest.

"You speak English very well, but aren't you French?" he asked me in the accent I always imagined for Mario and Luigi.

"No, English is my first language," I said, pursing my lips and glancing to the side.

"Ahhh! Where in England are you from?" He asked innocently.

"Actually... I'm American," I conceded, bowing my head.

The vendors' eyes lit up. "You are? You don't look

it! I love Americans!"

"You do?" I said, tightening the grip on my purse.

Grinning, the man suddenly unzipped his jacket to unveil a t-shirt with a silk screen Barack Obama. In the image, the President was wearing a Hawaiian lei.

"I just got back from Hawaii last week. I LOVE O B A M A ! " he chimed. "All of the Italians do."

Then he knocked 3 euro off the price off the fedora.

Obama is barely halfway through his first hundred days, and America's foreign reputation is already improving.

With George W. Bush and his Texan drawl back on the ranch, maybe Americans no longer have anything to be embarrassed about.

On the walk back to my hostel, I realized that rather than accepting and submitting to the negative American stereotype, I should be trying to break it by proving to Europeans that not all Americans are obese grumbler who watch NASCAR.

Plus, in this economy, every country is grateful for any tourism it gets, even from obnoxious Americans.

Or least that's how I justified my 10 euro lunch in the McDonald's next to St. Peter's Square.

Next time I go to Europe, I'll keep my hair long.

“

The next morning, I would be on a plane to Italy, and the plan was to cut great lengths to avoid any association with the Ugly American Tourist.

“

Coming Soon...

University Cafe

Coffee House - Lounge - Bar

Affordable Food & Live Entertainment!

Downtown

409 William Street

Eagleone Accepted

Entertainment

Top 5 Ways to Get Kicked Out of School

Five Ways to Guarantee Mary Washington Sends You Packing For Good

By Landon James
Staff Writer

Many of us will probably go through our college experience without ever brushing with the "law" on campus. You live comfortably, go to class, laugh with friends; however, there are some of you out there who like to live dangerously. You cannot stand the thought of being a good little boy or girl and get a thrill out of challenging authority, and often the realms of stupidity.

Well, I am here to for those who enjoy eating their meals with a switchblade and I will lay out the top ways to get yourself thrown out of Mary Washington, something valuable for every undergraduate delinquent.

1. Pot.

If you have ever said to yourself, "I want to be thrown out of school right now without going through any messy processes," hang out with Pot. Pot is the trump card on campus and all it takes is a bong rip on Campus Walk and you are gone faster than a pig out of a gun. The school's adamant One-Strike Policy for Marijuana will have you seeing stars if they see you with the goods.

So much for a green campus.

2. Free Load.

We all love bumming around, so why not get a free education out of it? Register for classes, go to Seacobek, play on club teams, and never pay for any of it. Why not? In this

economic crisis, not paying for school is the easiest and most practical way to save money. And, if you think free loading is not for you, give it a try! I suggest attending the Free Loaders R US club meeting every Tuesday night for more information.



image courtesy of wordpress.com



Aaron Richardson/Bullet

the Spotlight

"Tonight: Franz Ferdinand"

by Franz Ferdinand
(2009)

By DANIELLE VELARDI
Staff Writer

There comes a point in every artist's life when they need to take a step forward in their music career. I believe that Franz Ferdinand's latest album, "Tonight: Franz Ferdinand" accomplishes just that.

They have changed their sound in this album just enough to suit a wider audience. In fact, their latest single, "No You Girls" was featured in an iPhone commercial.

Without abandoning their signature sound, Franz Ferdinand has simply adapted to a chang-



image courtesy of potq.cl

ing industry. The music in this album is something that you could hear out at a party.

Some people might have been turned away from the band's new sound, but if you take the time to listen to the tracks again I think you can really become hooked, at least that's what happened for me.

Original fans may be temporarily scared off by the band's innovative twists, but they can seek solace in the fact that Franz Ferdinand continues to deliver. Tracks such as "Twilight Omens" and "Ulysses" provide a bridge of familiarity for long-time fans.

Change is not always for the worst. I think changing the sound of some of the music allows Franz Ferdinand to appeal to a wider audience. Previously, they were not heard out in clubs or played at parties.

However, the new album is catchier in my opinion. If one of the tracks starts to play while you are out somewhere, you won't be able to resist the urge to start dancing.

This is not to say that the album is solely directed towards dance music. One can still be on the dreaded walk to class, plugged into Franz Ferdinand's "Bite Hard", and the day can seem a little brighter.

The ending track, "Katherine Kiss Me", has such a soothing and calming sound. You can forget all of your problems and get lost in this track for two minutes and 55 seconds. I do not think Franz Ferdinand could have picked a better track to end a fantastic album with.

It makes you wonder how this album will affect their future sound. Based on the reviews, I would have to say that the new sound will most definitely be present in albums to come.



image courtesy of wordpress.com

3. Alcohol.

You'll have to work a lot harder to get thrown out for alcohol than the previous two but it is so worth it. Why not drink a beer or 15 on campus walk? Why not take shots with James Farmer outside of Trinkle? Why not take a drive with Frawley? The benefits are endless but make sure you get three strikes or you won't be out!

4. Cheat.

Tired of studying? Then cheating is the thing for you! Wandering eyes, looking at your neighbor's test or finding an excuse to get up so you can look at other people's answers are all great ways to prove beyond a doubt that you're cheating. Not only will you get to dress up for the dinner the Honor Council will throw you before they guillotine your head, just think about all the money you will be saving now that you do not have to pay for school anymore.

5. Fail.

If anybody tells you it's easy to fail out don't believe them. Those few and proud who have failed out will tell you it takes a lot of work, stamina, and determination. It is hard work getting up every day and choosing to sleep instead of doing that 10-page paper on wood pulp.

In fact, freshman fall semester you can get a 0.0 GPA and you get to come back for the spring. Consider it fall training for the spring season. And even though you are not technically getting "kicked out" by failing class, those band of brothers feel it is just the same.

Hopefully, if you were lost and did not know where to begin in your expulsion phase of life, this list clarified a few things for all of you. Happy expulsion!

Aladin

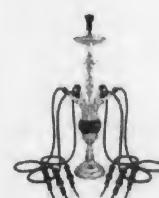
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Entertainment

Ben Folds To Bring Piano Pop to UMW

Bespectacled King of Indie Rock to Bring Suburbs to Dodd Auditorium

By AARON RICHARDSON and
RYAN MARR
Staff Writers

Ben Folds had been a staple button on every indie kid's satchel bag since the '90s. Though he's never been the hit-generator that bands like Third Eye Blind were, he's got definite staying power, and he's still on tour.

His seminal albums "Songs for Silberman" and "Rockin' The Suburbs" remain in constant rotation on the iPods of kids of all walks of life, from scowling hipsters to Hello

Kitty-clad high-school girls.

Fan favorites like "Rockin' The Suburbs," with its Great Hall-ready chorus: "y'all don't know what it's like/ being male, middle-class and white," and Dr. Dre cover "Bitches Ain't Shit" are sure to hit close to home when Folds performs on campus Monday night.

Giant Productions co-chair Chrissie Woolsey, like most of the campus, is especially enthusiastic about the upcoming performance.

"We had been trying for the past three years to book [Folds] and it never worked out," Woolsey said. "The Giant Productions staff is working hard to make this show as great as possible and we're expecting it to be a phenomenal experience for everyone who attends."

For us, Ben Folds was the proverbial gateway drug into the acoustic sad bastard music we seem unable to escape today. What Ben Folds does, more simply and concisely than anyone, is make it OK to be the sensitive kid.

Mostly, he's accessible. His songs are poppy but well-constructed and his lyrics remind you of simple-yet-poignant tenth-grade poetry.

The piano man for a generation of self-aware slackers, Folds is known for laying down catchy, melancholic pop in the tradition of Elton John and Billy Joel with a sarcastic bent. Whatever your preconceptions about Fold's ability as a songwriter, there's no denying that the dude is a virtuoso behind the piano.

While we classify Folds as "sad bastard music," but next to contemporaries like Elliott Smith, he looks like Mickey Mouse. While the majority of Folds's catalog deals with fairly common sentiments, he has proven his capacity for a higher emotional range. His song "Late" deals with the apparent suicide of Smith, a

friend, proving that Folds isn't an overgrown high-schooler.

Fast-forward a few years to the present and Folds is touring behind a less-than-stellar album, following up acts like Matt Nathanson and the Flobots at a tiny liberal arts school and probably wishing he'd never left his old bandmates in Ben Folds Five behind.

Get your tickets now, because "sad bastard music" will never sound this genuine again.

Student tickets are \$15 until Monday when the price increases to \$20 for UMW students. Non-student tickets cost \$30. Tickets will be available outside the Nest through Friday from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. (cash or Eagle One) and in OSACS from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. (cash only)

Also, the first 1000 people in the door Monday night will get a free Ben Folds shot glass.



Image courtesy of musiczone.it

UMW Student Play Stirs Up Controversy

Student Director Receives Death Threats for Challenging Religion

By STEPHANIE BREIJO
Guest Writer

UMW Junior Paul Morris checks his Facebook every day for death threats. His most recent onslaught, he says, comes from religious groups hell-bent on shutting down the college's disturbing and controversial student play, "Fall."

Addressing the existence of God and spirituality, cult-like worship, asylums, murder and sex, the show is bound to raise a few eyebrows. Morris, the show's director, takes it all in stride.

"It's very shocking at points," he said. "There's blood, there's screaming in the dark—it's been described as terrifying by people

who have seen it already. Because of the death threats you might even see me get murdered in public," he added with a laugh. "I'd go see something like that."

"Fall," opening tonight, involves mystery and mysticism surrounding two asylum inmates, their doctor, and a local religious figure. One man can't remember a crime he committed. One woman believes that God tells her to perform sexual acts. A doctor becomes obsessed with a character's treatment and the runner of a local church group questions faith.

Senior Mitch Macdonald, the show's playwright, began the project two years ago. "Fall," his senior project, is the final culmination of multiple alarming situations sewn together to shock an

audience into questioning and soul searching.

"There are murder scenes, there's sex re-created," Macdonald said. "But because this is not the first time these have been done on stage, it's not necessarily controversial. I think a lot of it is based mostly on rumination and what happens if all that we have left is time to think about the things we're unsure about—doubts and fears, monsters under the bed."

In addition to performing graphic scenes and rehearsing every day for a month, including weekends, "Fall's" four actors—Brett Mesar, Natalie McLarty, Kalyna Jowyk and Kevin Spencer McDonough—must play every character at least once throughout the show.

"We've put in a huge amount of work," Morris said. "We're taking it as seriously as a main-stage production usually is in terms of set, acting, etc."

To the shock of some, the traditionally black walls of the 40-seat Studio 115 have been painted white. The only lighting used throughout the play is the pre-installed fluorescent lighting of the room to replicate the sterility of a mental institution.

"It's an immediate departure from the conventional black box appearance," Macdonald said.

Macdonald believes their hard work has already paid off.

"I had a general idea that everything would come together, though I was not sure what form it would take," he said. "I'm happy to hear that it has already had an effect. The important thing for me is that as long as people are asking questions, I'll be satisfied."

"Fall" hits the stage tonight in Studio 115, located in the basement of DuPont Hall. The show starts at 7:30 p.m. and runs until Saturday.



Image courtesy of thedressingtimes.com

Resident Evil 5 Even More Terrifying

Horror Game Franchise Continues to Outdo Itself

By CHRIS GAINOR
Staff Writer

"Resident Evil" has come a long way from the survival horror genre the series created for console gaming. As "Resident Evil 4" dramatically changed the series, "Resident Evil 5" is a true sequel to the previous.

While there is nothing revolutionary brought to the table in "Resident Evil 5," it does bring several developments to the table from other games. The game does bring a bit of a conclusion to the overall storyline from the series.

The storyline stars Chris Redfield, from the original "Resident Evil," and a new partner Sheva. Together they are investigating a possible spread of a bio-terrorism weapon, Las Plagas, capable of creating controllable zombies in a fictional African country.

As the pair races to find the mastermind behind the weapon, they uncover a underlying conspiracy to infect the world. The storyline seemingly ties up the overarching storyline from the previous games. This includes where Umbrella began their research on viruses for zombies and a conclusion to the series largest villain, Wesker.

"Resident Evil 5" features large detailed maps great for exploration. Maps range from shantytowns in the harsh desert to marshlands and the classic Resident Evil experimental laboratories. Maps contain various

collectibles including treasure, for upgrading weapons, and emblems to unlock new costumes.

The maps seemingly demand multiple runs through to be able to find all that they contain.

While the game is relatively short "Resident Evil 5" does provide options to encourage additional trips through the game. "Resident Evil 5" provides a relatively short campaign ranging from eight to ten hours.

The game has four difficulty levels, amateur, normal, veteran and the unlockable pro. Amateur is amazingly easy while pro features enemies providing near, if not fatal attacks even from simple zombies. Infinite ammo for a weapon

becomes unlocked after beating the game and fully upgrading that weapon.

The series staple The Mercenaries mode, a race to kill off as many zombies during a limited time, is also unlocked after beating the game on any difficulty.

"Resident Evil 5" also provides leaderboards to compare times in various maps of the storyline and scores in The Mercenaries mode. Capcom, the developers behind the series, has announced there will be an additional deathmatch type mode to be available as downloadable content in the coming weeks.

There are two main devices that prevent "Resident Evil 5" from being a truly outstanding game. The first being the controls of the game. While "Resident Evil 4" provided the same type of controls, it was a great step forward for the series to provide better aim.

That was 2005, since then there have been great strides in perfecting the over the shoulder camera shooters such as Gears of War.

The second issue of the game provides is the terrible AI partner for the forced cooperative play.

I often found my partner stuck in buildings or watching as zombies approached without firing. I often found my partner being more useful as a pack mule carrying my various supplies. This problem does have a simple remedy though, find a friend to play with.

While "Resident Evil 5" will not please fans of the beginning of the series, it is a wonderful stand alone game.

With a high replay value and an enjoyable gaming experience "Resident Evil 5" is worth playing.

I highly recommend picking it up but remember to bring a friend as you traverse the heart of Africa hunting zombies.

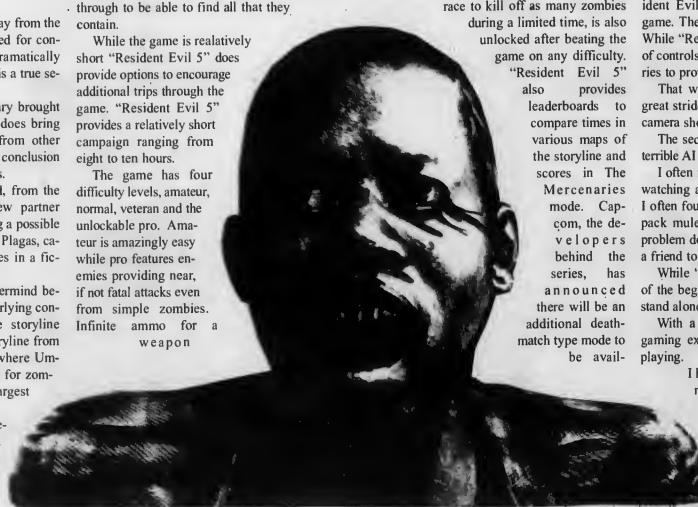


Image courtesy of scrawlix.com

Features

The Underground Redone

By ROBYN GIANNINI
Staff Writer

The University Underground, a phrase perhaps foreign to underclassmen but well-remembered by senior students, was once a legendary hangout for students providing coffee and evening entertainment and activities in the basement of Lee Hall before it closed in Spring 2006.

After undergoing renovations this summer, the Underground will reopen in Fall 2009.

"The Underground was a nice small venue that hosted anything from Rocky

Horror Screenings to bands to a poetry slam," said alumnus Clifford Hamaker, '08. "When they weren't hosting an event, then it was a quieter atmosphere filled with chatting and coffee."

Senior Alyssa Lee stated that she went to the underground at least once a week, describing the atmosphere of the Underground as "very relaxed."

"The darker lighting helped give it a very small lounge-type feel," she said.

Senior Katie Robinson also commented on the versatility of the events and activities that were offered by the former University Underground.

"I went to a gay film festival when it

was there, I went to Salsa Dancing [and] I also went to Bhangra night," Robinson said. "I loved the Underground as a venue because it was more intimate than Seaco or the Nest...it was like all of a sudden we weren't necessarily on campus but in a dark, intimate, lounge venue with funky entertainment...it was a little beatnik."

Alumna Emma Klemt, '08, who was employed at the Underground, said that she frequented the Underground often because it was, "a good place to hang out and just chill."

"It was also much cheaper than the Nest for a cup of coffee or some

snacks," Klemt said. "It was also much quieter than most dorms, and not as boring as the library. Honestly, I got more work done there than I did anywhere else, because it was a great place to have a study group."

Steven Thomas, the assistant director in charge of the plans for the new Underground, hopes to capture the same sort of essence and purpose the old Underground served on the Mary Washington campus.

The UMW website describes the plans for the new Underground as, "a lively venue offering food and beverage service and a place to relax or socialize" and "a gathering

place for students in the evening with regularly scheduled entertainment and activities."

Thomas said the new Underground will have five-to-even nights of weekly programming, which will include things such as acoustic acts, small bands, and comics. Thomas also said that Cheap Seats has signed on to host a movie in the Underground every Wednesday night.

When questioned how the new Underground will differ from the former

See LOUNGE, page 8 ▶



Tricia Callahan/The Bullet

Bullet Flash Back



1971 Bullet Yearbook Archives

UMW Holds First 'Washicon'

By TRICIA CALLAHAN
Staff Writer

For the very first University of Mary Washington "Mary Washicon," many students in the Renaissance Club wore traditional 1600s attire. Right beside them, a student from the J.A.D.E. anime club wore an orange wig and anime gear.

The idea to create a club exhibition at Mary Washington turned into an all day and all night demonstration with four UMW clubs—The Renaissance Club, the J.A.D.E. Anime Club, the Fencing Club, and the Orpheus Film Club.

The Mary Washicon, held in Great Hall March 16, was an idea developed by senior John Bowers.

"This year we just wanted to see if we could pull it off," Bowers said.

At the entrance, these clubs each set up tables to provide information and entertainment for students and onlookers.

Bowers said that the clubs had active involvement this year.

"They share a lot of the same members which made it easier to organize them," Bowers said, explaining how the Sci-Fi fans and the Renaissance club ended up together.

"If you think about it, that is an odd combination," he said.

Options for this event included a "Mario Super Smash Brothers" video game tournament, which students had to sign up for earlier in the day.

Besides information booths, there were two film rooms set to screen films provided by J.A.D.E. and the Orpheus Film Club. J.A.D.E. showed movies like "Cowboy Bebop," while the Orpheus Film Club showed movies like "The Royal Tenenbaums."

Zachary Whalen, assistant pro-

fessor of English, also gave a presentation covering the basis of the cultural legitimacy of video games.

Whalen, who this semester is teaching courses electronic literature and graphic novels, received a warm welcome and shared new perspectives with the attendants.

At one point in his presentation, he talked about controversial games like the RPG (role playing game) called "Super Columbine Massacre" and "JFK Reloaded." Whalen explained how these games force society to think about political and historical moments.

After the speech, approximately 20 people gathered around the Washroom

television to compete in the "Super Mario Smash Brothers" afternoon tournament. Competitors battled with their Pikachu's and Princess characters in hopes of becoming the winner.

Bowers said he was very satisfied with the first UMW "Mary Washicon," given that it was a rainy Sunday and the first event of its kind.

"We figured that a lot of students here would have no idea what an entertainment con is, so we tried to do and show things that you wouldn't have to be a fan to appreciate," Bowers said. "Our hope was to create an event which would allow other members of our community to experience our passions

Curious about
J.A.D.E.?

Contact John
Bowers at
jbowe11g@
umw.edu

By SUSANNAH CLARK
Staff Writer

In 1971, two years prior to Roe v. Wade, students at Mary Washington College had one place to go when they were pregnant and scared: the student newspaper office.

"I can't tell you how many students got illegal abortions," said Jane Touzalin, editor-in-chief of the Mary Washington Bullet in 1970 and 1971. "People would come to the Bullet office when they were pregnant for advice and support. We had the contact information for a doctor who performed secret abortions."

Besides being an underground haven, the Bullet of the early 1970s was a radical forum for a liberal minority on a conservative and traditional campus. With hand-drawn political cartoons, satirical fairy tales and anti-Vietnam War poetry, the Bullet was more of an edgy magazine than a typical college newspaper.

"We didn't even pretend to cover the news on campus," said Touzalin, who is now a copy editor on the Features desk of the Washington Post. "We didn't want to."

An ex-hippie who still wears her hair long, Touzalin now resides in the wealthy suburb of Arlington. Though she insists she loved her time at MWC, she remembers being frustrated with the school's restrictive atmosphere.

"The War was going on and society was changing. Our culture was progressing, but Mary Washington College was not," she said. "Girls had to wear skirts to class, you couldn't walk downtown alone. It's an understatement to say the administration was behind on the times."

After one Bullet editor was expelled from the college for underage drinking,

See PROFILE, page 8 ▶



J.A.D.E. President John Bowers put together the first ever Washicon club exhibition March 16.

Profile: '70s Editor Pushed Liberal Forum



◀ BACK, page 7

Touzalin and the rest of the *Bullet* staff transformed the paper into a freethinking forum and fostered an adversarial relationship with the administration. Rather than publishing Student Senate minutes and summarized *New York Times* movie reviews like before, the *Bullet* now consisted largely of letters and surveys on hot-button issues such as war, birth control and President Nixon's resignation.

"It probably would have been better for the college if we would have shut up," Touzalin said. "But to [the administration's] credit, they didn't try. People wanted to see what we would do next."

In the fall of 1968, when Touzalin was a staff writer and Susan Wagner was editor-in-chief, a front page of the *Bullet* received nationwide criticism.

The Nov. 25 issue featured a "Wanted" poster on the cover, with a drawn picture of Jesus and a controversial description beneath.

After several complaints from parents, community members and letters published in the *Free Lance-Star* calling the poster "tasteless and offensive," news stories about the controversial front page were picked up by the Associated Press. WTOP, a television network in Washington, D.C. eventually would run a feature about the incident which included video interviews with several *Bullet* staff members.

"That was the biggest issue of the *Bullet* ever," Touzalin said. "That was the beginning of our notoriety. People knew we were going to change things."

Two years later, Touzalin would be elected editor-in-chief, and would continue to publish features and letters that would rile parents and faculty. One parent complained in a letter to then-Chancellor Simpson, claiming the *Bullet* had an "almost fanatical hang-up with things sex-oriented."

"Parents would often complain and write letters asking 'why is my money being used to finance this immoral hippie paper?'" Touzalin recalled. "But you know [paying for tuition] is just like paying taxes. You don't get to pick which part of the government your money goes to. You could be building a library or sending more troops off to a war you don't agree with."

Along with covering crime and other occurrences on campus, the *Bullet* published many themed magazine-style issues, covering charged topics such as drugs, marriage, Black Power and the environment. Along with student articles and letters, these issues also published original artwork and Associated Press stories regarding the specific issues.

"At the time, there were so many changes in society to write about and pretty much nothing was going on on campus," Touzalin said. "The weekend was a weekly exodus; everyone went home or to UVA to troll for dates. Pick-

ing a theme and writing features was also much less work than covering what little news there was."

Perhaps the most controversial themed issue under Touzalin's editorship was the Nov. 2, 1970 issue about homosexuality.

"It was probably the first time many

lesbian student about attending Mary Washington in the closet.

"Right now I consider exposure dangerous... [if I came out] I would be considered the school freak," the interview reads. "It's probably almost as miserable though, when people don't know, because you can't really be yourself."

When asked about her parents' potential reaction to her sexuality, the student replied:

"I'm sure they would feel shocked and probably sick. My parents have sort of a harsh viewpoint about queers."

Touzalin says she felt a particular urgency to publish an issue about homosexuality because of an incident that occurred in Willard Hall, the dorm she lived in her freshman year. Touzalin remembers seeing a small mob of students milling outside of the dorm hallway. One girl had found her roommate lying on the bed with another girl.

"It was like the villagers outside of Frankenstein's castle," she said. "They were all in hysterics. I remember the terror and the horror on their faces clearly. I doubt anything was actually going on [in the dorm room] but the girls had some amazing theories."

In that same issue about homosexuality, a letter from Black Panther leader Huey Newton was reprinted from the Black Panther Community News Service titled "Homosexuals are not enemies of the people: a letter from Huey to the Revolutionary Brothers and Sis-

Jane Touzalin, Left, was the editor for many controversial issues of the MWC Bullet newspaper in the early 70s.

Above: Pictured in the 1971 Battlefield, the issue shows how the Bullet's appearance has changed drastically.

1971 Bullet Yearbook Archives

ters about the Women's Liberation Movement and Gay Liberation movements."

Though the Civil Rights movement had leaped over many of its major hurdles by the early 70s, Touzalin maintains that Mary Washington was not the most racially tolerant atmosphere.

"There were three black students on campus and they were all put into the same dorm room," she said. "The administration had the nerve to say that it was an accident."

Another one of Touzalin's disturbing memories of discrimination involved an anti-war march in Fredericksburg in the spring of 1971:

"Hundreds of students marched all the way up Route 1 to the Pentagon to go to a Vietnam protest," Touzalin recalled. "One of the black girls who was walking with us got spat on and we walked through Stafford County."

While the first black student enrolled at Mary Washington in 1962, the first male students enrolled in the fall of 1970, despite protests and letters from many upperclassmen and alumni.

"Mary Washington was such a unique place for women to express themselves, to walk around campus not caring what you looked like," said Touzalin. "We called for men to be admitted to be fair, but we really didn't want them."

Lounge Opening

◀ UNDERGROUND, page 7

Underground, Thomas described the change as "a facelift."

"From what I understand the stage has moved positions, and now there's actually food in there; it used to be more of a coffee shop," he said.

Thomas also said that the food will be quite different from that which is served at the nest, stating that it will be more like what one might find at a "Panini, sandwich type location." Students will be able to spend EagleOne money to buy food and drinks.

Thomas has been able to give several students previews of the new Underground, and has received positive feedback.

"One senior tech told me that [in the old Underground] they had to put boards on the ground because there was a hole in the middle of the floor that would collect rain," Thomas said. "When she saw the new building, she said, 'wow, this is amazing, the sound equipment is better, the lighting is better, everything is a lot better than what

it used to be.'"

However, some students who remember the former Underground are worried that the essential character that made the former Underground unique will be lost in the transition.

Klemt in particular is extremely skeptical of the plans for the new Underground.

"I don't think it's going to be the same at all," she said. "I have a feeling that it's going to be the same as the Nest, just in a different place."

Other students, however, are more hopeful.

"The renovation plans sound fine... I'm all for food, beverage, and entertainment," Robinson said. "I would just hope that the intimacy and lounge type atmosphere could be replicated. That was what made the Underground unique from the Nest or the Washroom."

Lee agrees.



Robyn Giannini/the Bullet

"I'm glad to hear that the Underground will be resurrected, I think the space has great potential," she said. "The Nest and Wash Room are nice, but I feel like the Underground can provide not only another great location, but something a bit different."

The main concern among many senior students and alumni about the quality of the transition from the old Underground to the new Underground is whether or not the new Underground will be student-run.

"I think that the fact that it was student-run was a defining characteristic of the atmosphere that the Underground

offered," Hamaker said. "The music tended to be based on the whim of your friend behind the counter. There was never a rush to get your coffee or soda. Tables and couches could be arranged and rearranged as you saw fit: to study, play cards, or practice some choreography for a class or Mr. UMW."

Thomas is convinced that the quality of the student-run venue will not be lost, stating that the University will indeed be employing students to help manage the Underground.

In Town

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8-11 p.m.

The Recreation Center

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(540) 371-6498

Saturday

Live-Ryan Beverly

8:30 p.m.

Kybecca

400 William St.

Sunday

N2N,

9- midnight

Paisano's Eatery

540 429-5755

News

Outside the Fence



By HEATHER BRADY
Staff Writer

Regional

Kathleen Bernard, a 53-year-old teacher, was in court Tuesday morning on charges that she came to school drunk one morning in January. She had already admitted her guilt by preparing her drunk in public fine, according to Louisa prosecutor Rusty McGuire. Bernard was arrested Jan. 14 after the school's principal called deputies to say he suspected she had arrived at school at 6:57 a.m. intoxicated. She blew a .18 on a breathalyzer, more than twice the legal limit of .08 in which one is presumed to be driving while intoxicated, when she was taken into custody. Bernard was charged with drunk in public and possessing alcohol on school grounds. The alcohol charge was dropped because Bernard didn't have alcohol in her possession, only in her system. McGuire said his understanding in that there was never a reason to suspect Bernard had been intoxicated at school before. (*The Free Lance-Star*, Mar. 25; www.fredericksburg.com)

National

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton traveled to Mexico on Wednesday with a stark mea culpa, saying that decades of U.S. anti-narcotics policies had been a failure and contributed to the explosion of drug violence south of the border. "Clearly what we've been doing has not worked," Clinton told reporters on her plane at the start of her two-day trip. "It is unfair for our incapacity to have effective policies" on curbing drug use, narcotics shipments and the flow of guns "to be creating a situation where people are holding the Mexican government and people responsible. That's not right." Clinton's comments appeared to be the most sweeping yet by a top Obama administration official accepting a U.S. role in the drug havoc in Mexico. More than 7,000 Mexicans have been killed since January 2008, as cartels have warred over trafficking routes and lashed out at the government for deploying the military against them. Clinton signaled that the U.S. government planned to do more. She vowed to press for swift delivery of equipment promised under the Merida Initiative, a three-year, \$1.4 billion package of anti-drug assistance to Mexico and Central America. Clinton also said that the administration would "try to get more tools to go after the gun dealers" and those who purchase weapons to pass on to the cartels. She did not elaborate. (*The Washington Post*, Mar. 25; www.washingtonpost.com)

Global

It became known in France on Tuesday that the head of a large auto parts company who was edged out because of poor results walked away with a severance package worth more than \$4 million. The resulting national outrage, which intensified government threats to pass a law limiting executive pay, reflected a growing sense of unease as the global financial crisis sets into the French economy, with unemployment surpassing 2 million and recrimination mounting against President Nicolas Sarkozy's attempt to remedy the situation by propping up ailing banks and businesses. As it has in the United States, the issue of stratospheric compensation packages for executives who were in charge when the crisis erupted has become a rallying cry for fired workers, labor unions and politicians. Aware of the mounting resentment and its political implications, the government was quick to react when news spread that Thierry Morin, who left the Valeo company Monday, received a \$4.1 million severance package from the board of directors. The package was granted, the newspaper *Liberation* reported, even though the company lost more than \$250 million last year, laid off about 1,600 employees in France and received nearly \$25 million in government aid to weather the crisis. The budget minister, Eric Woerth, said it was "provocative" and "abnormal" for a struggling company that received aid from the government—and in which the government has a minority interest—to pay out such a generous severance package to someone who was let go over what were described as "strategic differences" with the board of directors. (*The Washington Post*, March 25; www.washingtonpost.com)

Student IDs Required to Enter Apartments

KEYS, page 1

tion is also funding the construction of Eagle Village.

Despite the high cost of installation and the indifferent attitude of many students towards security concerns, Director of Residence Life Chris Porter maintains her support for the card access system.

"Any system is only as effective as the students who use it allow it to be," Porter said. "When folks let people they don't know trail in behind them, they are compromising the safety of their community."

Added benefits of the card access system include centrally-controlled automatic locks, a record of entry useful for incident investigations and the ability to freeze lost student keycards.

However, Porter emphasized the role that students play in the access system's success.

"We can install the most advanced door access system in the world and if community members are going to ignore their own safety, it's not going to make a difference," Porter said.

Student reaction to the new security system was mixed.

Senior Brad Fisher felt that the added security measures were a bit superfluous.

"It's kind of a hassle," he said. "It's just another door to get locked behind if I forget my keys. Plus, it renders my doorknob useless, since guests won't be able to get into the building anymore."

However, Monica Fritz-Manolio, also a senior, welcomed the change.

"It's much less convenient, but considering an RA left my door open all of Thanksgiving Break last year, I'll feel much better with the new system in place," Fritz-Manolio said.

"It would also really cut down on mailspam," she said in reference to the unrequested flyers and advertisements some apartment residents occasionally receive under or on their doors.

According to Wiletemuth, if the state provides funding, the University plans to install card access systems in all academic and administrative buildings within the next six years.

Local Police Dept. Offers Safety Tips

See PEEPING, page 1

notification, she harbors no ill will.

"I know we aren't in the safest area," Pullen said. "I guess it would be good to know these things, but I'm not sure the school could really do much about them, other than reminding us to look out."

Jackie Horn, a senior who lives off campus, echoed Pullen's sentiment.

"I heard about the incident, actually, but I didn't scare me," Horn said. "I take precautions, but don't let fear rule my life or influence my decisions."

Horn has had her fair share of Fredericksburg's criminal element. Last year her house was robbed and her laptop was stolen.

Still, Horn views a notification system as a problematic solution.

"If he's a threat to other people, I'd say it's important to notify the community," she said. "But it's a fine line between warning people and instilling fear."

"Any time a student chooses to live off campus, that student becomes a member of the community," Bledsoe said. "You take the good with the bad."

—Natatia Bledsoe

responsibility or their own safety.

"We recommend to students the same things we recommend to anyone moving to Fredericksburg," she said. "Do some research into the neighborhood you're moving into and look at the crime statistics."

Bledsoe also mentioned the services offered by the Fredericksburg Police Department, including free defense classes geared towards women. She also mentioned the department's plethora of readily available crime information.

"Contact the police department," she said. "Crime statistics are updated regularly, and you can call the department to get the stats directly."

As for off-campus students, it appears that little can be done to sway their practicality.

"I've heard stories like this before," Horn said. "And I'd call the police just like they did."

Commuting Student Association President Anum Shaikh was unable to comment.

Drug Proposal Passes in Student Government

DRUG POLICY, page 1

learn from their mistake the first time without jeopardizing their safety and the safety of others from fear of expulsion.

According to the group, the pre-existing penalties and stigma from parents, administrators, and future employers would be enough of a deterrent that a change in university policy would not encourage stu-

dents to use marijuana and would not lead to increased drug use by UMW students.

Dean Rucker, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Student Life said he is aware of the movement to change Mary Washington's drug policy. While he could not officially make a statement on the issue, he maintains that at this stage, all MacDonald and Isaacs are requesting, is that the

New Building Signs to be Placed On Campus

SIGNS, page 2

Mary Washington logo. The name of the building and any other identifying information will be printed in white.

"We want to upgrade the look campus," Burkett said.

Construction of the signs along Campus Walk should start around mid-April and should be finished by graduation.

The second phase of the project will encompass changing the signs for the parking lots, and should start over the summer.

"We're not changing policy," Burkett emphasized. "We're making improvements on what we already have."

For example, instead of the 8.5 by 11 laminated paper signs that are currently used to mark off special event parking, they hope to have more permanent signs.

The special committee in charge of the parking sign phase of the project will work with the University Police when it decides on new campus-wide parking signs.

The entire project, which, according to Burkett, should not exceed \$150,000, should be completed by the fall.

"When the incoming class comes in, they should have a sense of confidence knowing where things are," she said.

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Get To Know Us!

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Leslie Jacobs, our Catering Sales Specialist, brings a wealth of experience and talent to our Catering Department. She holds an Associate Degree in Business, has an extensive banking background, worked for the UMW Athletic Department for six years, and has been a member of our catering team for over ten years. Her knowledge of university procedures, event planning skills, dedication, and catering experience make her an invaluable member of our team. Leslie is warm and friendly, and always "goes the extra mile" to ensure that our clients and guests receive incomparable catering service. Need catering for a student club party or department banquet? Would you like to use the Faculty and Staff Dining Room for a reception? Want to pick up food for an outdoor barbecue? Give Leslie a call! She will help you plan the perfect event! You can reach Leslie at 654-1931 or e-mail her at ljacobs@umw.edu.



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5:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the South Market Dining Room

April 6: 1950's Rock & Roll Dinner in the Washington Diner, 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM
Enjoy great rock & roll music, classic American menu features, and prizes!

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Sports

MLB: Opening Day Looming

By ZACHARY MORETTI
Staff Writer

Editor's Note

After five months of free agents, trades and watching scrub players try hopelessly to make their respective teams after signing minor-league deals, the baseball regular season is less than two weeks away.

This begins a two-week special MLB preview issue in which *The Bullet* sports staff will take a look at every team's additions, subtractions and chances of making the postseason in the near future.

Up this week: the AL East (sans Baltimore Orioles) and the NL West.

AL East:

1. Boston Red Sox:

While all the talk in this division centers around the Tampa Bay Rays and their fairytale rise to the World Series a season ago, along with the New York Yankees and all the money they spent to get big name free agents in the off-season, people have forgotten the Sox took the Rays to seven games in the ALCS despite their best hitter and best pitcher battling injuries throughout the series. With an outstanding pitching staff that has three All-Star quality starters in Josh Beckett, Jon Lester, and Daisuke Matsuzaka, along with low-risk, high-reward free agent signings in John Smoltz and Brad Penny, many believe the Red Sox could end up with the best rotation in all of baseball.

The Sox have the MVP of the American League from a season ago in Dustin Pedroia to go along with star first baseman Kevin Youkilis and outfielder Jason Bay. The bullpen is built around one of the best closers in all of baseball in Jonathan Papelbon. The Red Sox may not be the best story and they may not have made the biggest

splash in free agency but they will surely be in the thick of things when playoff time comes knocking.

2. New York Yankees:

The Yankees had an uncharacteristically quiet off-season before the 2008 regular season began, as they preached trying to build the farm system up and try to move to replenishing from within the organization in the future. Well, after New York missed the playoffs in 2008, the Yankees are back to their old ways as they shelled out contracts worth \$181 million, \$161 million, and \$82.5 million to three players respectively this past off-season.

The additions of first baseman Mark Teixeira along with starting pitchers CC Sabathia and A.J. Burnett should certainly help the club out considerably. Sabathia and Burnett greatly improve a pitching staff that struggled a season ago and the two of them paired with the return of a healthy Chen-Ming Wang should give the Yankees a pretty impressive pitching staff. Teixeira is a star hitter who gets inserted into an already impressive lineup that includes shortstop Derek Jeter, outfielder Ichiro Suzuki, and of course third baseman Alex Rodriguez and all the controversy that surrounds him nowadays. If the Yankees do the smart thing and move the ultra-talented Joba Chamberlain back to the bullpen to fill the 8th inning role then things begin to look much better there. However, the major question surrounds Alex Rodriguez and how effective he will be once he returns from injury along with how he will handle all the talk about his steroids confession.

3. Tampa Bay Rays:

The 2008 Rays were the biggest surprise of the season and truly became a real life Cinderella story as they went from the worst team in all of baseball in 2007 to representing the American League in the World Series in 2008. The 2009

Rays will again be very good and they will compete the entire season for a division title or Wild Card berth. Tampa Bay has young and excellent starting pitching in Scott Kazmir, James Shields, Matt Garza, and David Price, which should keep them in every game. Their hitting is nothing to sneeze at either and is centered around two young stars in Evan Longoria and B.J. Upton. Carl Crawford is an absolute burner at the top of the order and Carlos Pena and new off-season addition Pat Burrell give them some extra

pop in the middle of the lineup.

The question mark for the Rays is the bullpen. I have no faith that Troy Percival can stay healthy. I sincerely doubt that Jason Isringhausen has anything left in the tank, and Dan Wheeler proved last season when he tried to close that he just doesn't have what it takes. This will prove to be a fatal flaw for the Rays and despite being one of the five best teams in all of baseball, they are the third best team in their division, which means the clock will strike midnight on Cinderella as Tampa Bay misses out on the playoffs in 2009.

4. Toronto Blue Jays:

Toronto finished a mere fourth in the AL East in 2008 despite a solid 86-76 record. The 2009 forecast looks to have the Blue Jays fourth yet again, but don't expect so many wins this time around. With the loss of starting pitcher A.J. Burnett to division foe New York and the loss of starting pitcher Shaun Marcum for the entire season due to an elbow injury, a once formidable pitching staff is looking bleak.

The Jays still have the services of ace Roy Halladay though, who is proven to be one of the best in the business and a true innings eater, as well. With talented hitters in outfielder Alex Rios and Vernon Wells along with veterans at the corner in field spots with third baseman Scott Rolen and first baseman Lyle Overbay, Toronto could produce a solid amount of runs. Their bullpen is decent but does rely on the return of closer B.J. Ryan, who was solid last year, to his dominant form ala 2006. Toronto will be competitive in most games, but barring major injuries, they just aren't good enough to finish any higher than fourth.

NL West:

1. Los Angeles Dodgers:

The Dodgers emerged late last season to win the division after the addition of outfielder Manny Ramirez via a trade from the Boston Red Sox. Just how good was Manny in Dodgerland? A .396 average, 17 home runs, 53 RBIs, and 36 runs in just 53 games vaulted Ramirez into MVP consideration despite being in the NL for such a short period of time. The 2009 Dodgers will field one of the best hitting teams in the majors with no weak spots aside from the pitcher's spot in the order. They have one of the best hitting catchers in the sport in Russell Martin, emerging outfielders in Matt Kemp and Andre Ethier, and solid veteran hitters in third baseman Casey Blake and second baseman Orlando Hudson. Now the loss of starting pitcher

Derek Lowe to the Atlanta Braves would appear to hurt the pitching staff some, but the Dodgers still have a quality rotation led by ace Chad Billingsley and they have the immense talent of 21-year-old Clayton Kershaw in tow as well. Young, upcoming closer Jonathan Broxton anchors the bullpen down and there are several other solid arms at the disposal of manager Joe Torre out in the pen as well. Los Angeles simply has the most talent in this division and they will be too much for the other teams to compete with them as they will coast to the division title.

2. Arizona Diamondbacks:

Arizona was the team who least enjoyed the arrival of Manny to the Dodgers. After Ramirez joined L.A. on Aug. 1, Arizona went just 25-28 to close the season and only 2-7 against the Dodgers, losing their division lead and missing out on the playoffs in the process.

Since then, the Diamondbacks lost two key players in free agency as second baseman Orlando Hudson signed with the aforementioned Dodgers and home run masher Adam Dunn signed with the Washington Nationals. The Diamondbacks only had one player hit .300 or higher last season while they had three who hit .250 or lower. The team needs young outfielder

Justin Upton to increase his production and live up to the hype that surrounds him to give aid to star shortstop Stephen Drew and give more stability to their lineup. Now the strength of Arizona is clearly their pitching staff as they have the pleasure of having two aces in Brandon Webb and Dan Haren and what many believe to be a rising star in young pitcher Max Scherzer. The bullpen is in pretty good shape as well and they have a couple options go with at the closer position in either Jon Rauch or Chad Qualls. However, their inability to consistently produce runs will have them looking up at the Dodgers in the standings for most of the season.

3. San Diego Padres:

After a disappointing 2007 year where the Padres finish third in a very close division race, the 2008 season saw San Diego hit rock bottom as they finished last in the NL West. The 2009 Padres can bounce back to a degree, but there is only so far you can go with mediocre talent. They have a stud at the top of their rotation in Jake Peavy and Chris Young should bounce back from an injury that cost him a big chunk of the 2008 season and be a good number two on the staff as well. Adrian Gonzalez serves as the teams primary home run threat and run producer and the team is also relying on the further development of young players such as third baseman Kevin Kouzmanoff and outfielder Chase Headley.

The Padres bullpen will certainly have a different look to it as the team and MLB all-time saves leader Trevor Hoffman went there separate ways, which means no more of "Hells Bells" in the ninth inning to preface the entrance of the San Diego fan favorite anymore.

4. Colorado Rockies:

Following a season where they went on a great World Series run, Colorado fans were not happy with a 2008 season that saw the club finish in third place and 14 games under .500. The 2009 season does not look any brighter for Rockies fans as the team traded away its best player, outfielder Matt Holliday, to the Oakland Athletics and lost starting pitcher Jeff Francis for the year due to injury. The team still has a lineup that should produce very well due to a hitter friendly ballpark a load of good, veteran hitters in Garret Atkins, Brad Hawpe, and Todd Helton. The team is also hopeful that star shortstop Troy Tulowitzki can return from an injury that slowed him most of the 2008 season and go back to the way he played during the 2007 year where he cranked out a 291 average, 24 home runs, and 99 RBI that earned him the Rookie of the Year Award. The starting rotation looks to be the shakiest part of this year Colorado club. Ubaldo Jimenez is the most promising pitcher on the staff and Aaron Cook put up respectable numbers last season, but the others are all big

question marks and average or below average starting pitching can't be hidden in this ballpark that hitters thrive in. Therefore, despite solid hitting, the pitching just isn't reliable enough for the Rockies to compete and they will battle the Padres for the right to third place in the division, but that's as high as they will get.

5. San Francisco Giants:

The Giants simply weren't that good in 2008 and they don't look to be that much better in 2009. The team is built around 2008 Cy Young Award winning pitcher Tim Lincecum, who is one of the best pitchers in all of baseball. They also have solid complementary starters in Matt Cain and

Randy Johnson, but the other two spots in the rotation are huge question marks. Pitcher Barry Zito signed a seven-year, \$126 million contract in December of 2006; the richest ever for a pitcher at the time of the deal, yet he has posted win-loss totals

of 11-13 and 10-17 with ERAs of 4.53 and 5.15 in his two years with the club. San Francisco is high on 26-year-old starter Jonathan Sanchez, but he has yet to put it together in the big leagues while pitcher things don't get better when it comes to hitting either as San Francisco is subpar in this area as well. When Pablo Sandoval and Bengie Molina are your projected 3-4 hitters, you just don't have a very good lineup. The 2009 Bay Area fans will be dreaming about the good old days when they had Bonds as this year will bring nothing but a second consecutive losing season.

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Sports

Sweet Sixteen: As It Should Be

With Remaining Field, "Elite Eight" Looks To Remain Elite

By JOEY MERKEL
Sports Editor

It seems that the clock has struck midnight early this year for the all the Cinderellas in the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament.

This year there do not appear to be any George Masons and the only seed left lower-than-a-five-seed is University of Arizona, and they should have their hands full dealing with No. 1 Louisville this Friday.

Yes, the Sweet Sixteen is set. In the end just like a like a real "Super Sweet Sixteen" girl who didn't right color Mercedes she wanted, tears are sure to be shed at by Sunday night. Some will be tears of joy and some tears of sadness. Tears of lost games, won games and of bracket busters.

And though Wake Forest completely screwed my bracket by phoning it in against Cleveland State, a team that only made the tournament by winning their conference, I won't dwell on the matter.

You know I'm just not that type of guy that dwells on sports happenings that end



may be an anomaly this year getting a little lucky by missing Wake in the second round. Instead they made quick work of Cleveland State, winning by 14.

In last year's tournament for the first time in NCAA men's basketball history, all four number one seeds made it to the semifinals and it certainly seems feasible that it will happen once again.

The only number-one seed that doesn't look dominant is Pittsburgh, who I have winning the whole tournament. However, I also feel that they may have one of the easier paths to the champion-

ship.

The University of Connecticut has been in top form since entering the tournament, however it has been obvious that they have missed Jerome Dyson. The potential Elite Eight match-up between Oklahoma and North Carolina could be one of the best games of the tournament.

Tyler Hansbrough versus Blake Griffin is what college basketball fans have been waiting for all year. After that, the winner might get

to take on DeJuan Blair of Pitt, another potentially great match-up.

Some people may say that this tournament is about upsets. I wholeheartedly disagree. When you want to find out who the best team in the country is, you don't want the best teams playing a three-point shooting happy team that happens to be shooting 75 percent in the opening round game and upsets them by a couple points in overtime. It might be exciting at the time but in the long run the tournament and the players suffer.

All these kids want to win the tournament, but I don't think any player on a number-one team would be satisfied with playing a 12-seed in the finals and beating them by 35.

In a perfect world, the number-one seeds would make it to the Final Four every year because they are supposed to be the best. Of course that doesn't matter because every sports ranking system in college is flawed, so naturally some of the better teams could get two or three seeds.

In the end, the seeds rarely matter. A team that many considered one of the best teams in

FIRST PERSON

by screwing me over. I don't think about when Jeffrey Maier interfered with Derek Jeter's home run to give the Yankees the lead over the Orioles and cost us the pennant. I don't dwell on things like that. It's not like thinking about that is going to change history, right? Right? Right.

It's not like I'm going to blame Wake Forest. I didn't even put any money on my bracket, and it's just silly to get that caught up in something meaningless like a bracket, right? Right? Right.

Anyway, in two of the four regions, the one, two, three and four seeds are all still alive and in the third it's the one, two, three and five seed. It seems that Arizona



Courtesy of totalprospects.com
Chase Budinger and the No. 12 seed Arizona wildcats are the last Cinderella left.



Courtesy robmurrayeditor.com

No, not that type of "Sweet Sixteen." This one's not that "super," it's just better.

the country before the tournament makes it unanimous by the end of the tournament.

The only thing you can do is not dwell on the fact that your bracket totally got screwed up when the worse team had a great game against the better team, right? Right? Right.

Games Start Tonight on CBS starting at 7:07 p.m. with (5) Purdue taking on (1) Connecticut.



Courtesy Clint Often
Sophomore pitcher Dan Murdoch pitched six near perfect innings this past Monday

Murdoch Near Perfect As UMW Rolls Up Gallaudet

By NICK NELSON
Staff Writer

Closing out a three-game sweep between the road and home, the Mary Washington baseball team soundly defeated the Gallaudet Bison 16-0 on Monday at the Battlegrounds, creating their own "March madness" in an off-day from basketball tournament play.

The win put the Eagle sluggers at 9-7 on the season, with a 4-6 record in the Capital Athletic Conference. The Bison fell to 2-12-1 overall and a winless in conference play at 0-10.

Coach Tom Sheridan had nothing but good things to say about his team's performance in Monday's contest.

"We had a good team out there today with really good pitching," Sheridan said. "We only [gave up] one base runner in six innings, and that was on an error."

The game began quickly in Mary Washington's favor, as they plated four in the first two innings, and then erupted for six runs in the third, putting themselves up by a margin of 10-0 just over an hour into Monday's game.

Even playing a shortened, seven-inning game,

the Eagles managed to score a run in all but the fourth and seventh innings, scoring one in the fifth inning and five in the sixth.

The pitching was solid on the Mary Washington side, as sophomore starting pitcher Dan Murdoch pitched six innings of near-perfect no-hit baseball, fanning six and walking none. Sophomore reliever Parker Talbot came in and finished the job with a scoreless seventh allowing one hit and striking out two.

The hitting was equally strong, as the Eagles erupted for 18 hits in the shortened contest. The offensive barrage was led by junior centerfielder Alex Howell, who went 4-5 with three doubles, a run scored and two runs batted in. Senior first baseman Alex Quintana added a 3-5 outing with a double, two runs scored and one RBI.

Junior infielder Will Wright went 2-3 with three runs while junior catcher Nick Espinosa contributed by taking not just one, but two for the team, being hit by two pitches and connecting for two hits. Sophomore infielder Bill Beovich also went 2-3 with two walks and three runs scored.

The lone Bison hit came in the seventh inning in the form of a single by freshman shortstop Jeremy Schepps.

"Games like this are great, because they let a

lot of different guys play," Sheridan said. "These guys work hard, we're a good team, we're very young, and I've seen the hitting really improve."

Youth is the key word for the 2009 Eagle squad, with 15 freshmen and 10 sophomores relying on the experience and leadership of seniors Quintana, Wes Hayden, Andrew Cox and Sean Marren.

The Eagles had a rough start to the season, winning their first three, but dropping the next six contests. They have since rebounding, winning six of their last eight and getting their overall record back into winning territory.

Despite the early season struggles, Sheridan is confident in the strength of his team from here until the conclusion of the season in May.

"You know, Dan [Murdoch] is our number six guy [in the rotation]," Sheridan said. "When you can start a guy like that, it shows you have really deep pitching. This is a team with a lot of potential."

The Eagles play Bridgewater College today at

3:30 p.m. at the Battlegrounds, where they will look to avenge a hard-fought 12-8 loss just six days ago.

Looking forward, the weekend brings a doubleheader at home for a Capital Athletic Conference matchup against Wesley College on Sunday afternoon at 1 p.m. It will be the Eagles' first meeting against both squads this season.

Teams of the Week

The UMW women's lacrosse team shutout CAC rival Hood College 19-0, earning Coach Dana Hall her 200th victory. Congratulations to Coach Hall.

Athlete of the Week

Junior centerfielder Alex Howell went 4-5 with three doubles, a run scored and two RBIs in the baseball team's 16-0 rout against Gallaudet on Monday.